

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/085,411
Atty. Docket No.: A-7295

Response to 02/05/09 Non-Final Office Action

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CLAIM AMENDMENTS

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This Claims Listing replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims Listing

Claims 1-97 are canceled.

98. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling viewer access to media content, comprising:

providing interactive user interfaces on a screen that enables an administrator to positively define media content for access by a user, the media content enabled for access upon a first non-temporal factor and approved for access during an approved time interval;

determining if whether the media content is provided only at a time outside the approved time interval;

and

if the media content is provided at a time outside the approved time interval, permanently recording to a personal video recording device the media content when the media content is provided outside the approved time interval to allow later access to the recorded media content during the approved time interval.

99. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 98, further comprising enabling access to the recorded media content during the approved time interval.

100. (Cancelled)

101. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 100, further comprising:

providing a warning barker disclosing a time conflict between the approved time interval and the real-time presentation of the media content.

102. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 101, further comprising:

providing the user with an option to record the media content outside the approved time interval for viewing during an approved time.

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103. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling viewer access to media content, comprising;

providing interactive user interfaces on a screen that enables an administrator to positively define media content for access by a user;

determining updates to the media content since the administrator last positively defined the media content for access; and

displaying only updates to the media content to the administrator, the updates comprising only changes to the new media content that occurred added since the administrator last positively defined the media content for access.

104. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 103, further comprising storing when the media content was last defined for access.

105. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 103, further comprising determining when the media content was last defined for access.

106. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 103, wherein the updates are displayed on an update screen.

107. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 105, wherein the updates are displayed in a banner on a display screen.

108. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 103, wherein the updates relate to pay per view content.

109. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 103, wherein the updates relate to newly added channels.

110. (Cancelled)

111. (Cancelled)

112. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling viewer access to media content, comprising;

providing interactive user interfaces on a screen that enables an administrator to positively define media content for access by a user for a designated authorization level;

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enabling the user to access media content enabled for a first authorization level;
displaying a media content instance enabled for the first authorization level on a display screen; and

simultaneously displaying an icon on the display screen to indicate whether the media content is enabled for a second authorization level; and

simultaneously displaying an indicator icon that if selected results in enabled access for the displayed media content instance without interrupting the display.

113. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 112, wherein the icon is displayed in a corner of the display screen.

114. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 112, wherein the media content is displayed in real-time.

115. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 112, wherein the icon comprises a parental control icon.

116. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 112, wherein the first authorization level is an administrative authorization level and the second authorization level is a child authorization level.

117. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 112, wherein the icon comprises a lock.

118. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 112, further comprising, allowing the user to enable the media content for the second authorization level.

119. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 112, further comprising, displaying an approval screen to the user to allow the user to enable the media content for the second authorization level.

120. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 119, further comprising, receiving an input from the user.

121. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 120, further comprising, enabling the media content for the second authorization level.

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122. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 112, further comprising, displaying an approval screen to the user to allow the user to disable the media content for the second authorization level.

123. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 122, further comprising, disabling the media content for the second authorization level.

124. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 112, further comprising displaying an indicator near the icon, the indicator indicating a button to press on a remote control to display an approval screen to enable the media content for the second authorization level.

125. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling viewer access to media content, comprising:

providing interactive user interfaces on a screen that enables an administrator to positively define media content for a plurality of authorization levels; and

displaying an interactive authorization level linking screen, the interactive authorization level linking screen showing a first authorization level and a second authorization level and a linking icon to indicate whether media content enabled for the second authorization level is enabled for subsumed within the first authorization level.

126. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 125, further comprising linking the first authorization level with the second authorization level to enable for the first authorization level media content previously enabled for the second authorization level in addition to the media content enabled for the first access level.

127. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 125, wherein the authorization levels are provided in order of authorization level rank.

128. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 125 wherein the step of displaying an interactive authorization level linking screen to a user comprises displaying a plurality of user authorization levels and an associated include block indicating which authorization levels are linked to the first authorization level.

129. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 125 further comprising receiving a user input to determine whether to link the authorization levels.